IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims are set forth below. Cancelled and withdrawn claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (previously amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously added), (reinstated - formerly claim #), (previously reinstated), (re-presented - formerly dependent claim #) or, (previously re-presented).

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~An information processing apparatus~~ A server to which an operating ~~apparatus~~ client and ~~an~~ a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating ~~apparatus~~ client are connected, said ~~information processing apparatus~~ server functioning as a peripheral server with which the operating client operates the peripheral apparatus, the server comprising:

an instruction information storing part which stores a set of operating instructions ~~instruction information for operating~~ to be used by said client apparatus to ~~be operated~~ operate the peripheral apparatus via the server; and

an instruction information send part which reads said ~~instruction information~~ set of operating instructions from said instruction information storing part in response to a request from said operating ~~apparatus~~ client and in further response sends said instruction information to said operating ~~apparatus~~ client, where the request is a request of the operating client to operate the peripheral apparatus.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~information processing apparatus~~server as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an operating instruction information obtaining part which obtains said ~~instruction information~~operating instructions from said peripheral apparatus ~~to be operated~~ when said operating instruction information storing part does not ~~include~~have said ~~instruction information~~operating instructions corresponding to said request.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a communication ~~type~~ protocol accommodation part which

2

accommodates a difference between communication ~~types~~ protocols of said ~~operating apparatus~~ client and said peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating client.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said communication ~~type~~ protocol accommodation part includes a converter which converts data such that a protocol of said data becomes suitable for said communication ~~type~~ protocols.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said peripheral apparatus to be operated ~~is~~ comprises a printer.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An information processing method of ~~an information processing apparatus~~ a server to which an operating ~~apparatus~~ client and ~~an~~ a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating ~~apparatus~~ client are connected, said ~~information processing~~ method of the server comprising~~:~~

~~an instruction information request receiving step of~~ receiving from said operating ~~apparatus~~ client a request ~~for instruction information for operating~~ to operate said peripheral apparatus ~~to be operated~~; and

~~a sending step of~~ sending ~~said instruction information~~ operating instructions to be used by said client apparatus to operate the peripheral apparatus from said ~~information processing apparatus~~ server to said operating ~~apparatus~~ client in response to said request to operate said peripheral apparatus.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The information processing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said sending ~~step comprising a step of~~ comprises obtaining said ~~instruction information~~ operating instructions from said peripheral apparatus to be operated when said ~~information processing apparatus~~ server does not ~~include~~ have said ~~instruction information~~ operating instructions corresponding to said request.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium storing ~~program code~~ information for causing a server computer system to perform a process ~~information~~, an operating ~~apparatus~~ client and ~~an~~ a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating

3

~~apparatus~~ client being connected to said server computer system, said ~~computer readable medium~~ process comprising:

~~first program code means for~~ receiving from said operating ~~apparatus~~ client a request ~~for instruction information for operating~~ to operate said peripheral apparatus ~~to be operated~~; and

~~second program code means for~~ sending operating instructions to be used by said client apparatus to operate the peripheral apparatus ~~said instruction information~~ from said server computer system to said operating ~~apparatus~~ client in response to said request to operate said peripheral apparatus.

9.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 8, wherein said ~~second program code means comprising program code means for~~ process further comprises obtaining said ~~instruction information~~ operating instructions from said peripheral apparatus ~~to be operated~~ when said server computer system does not ~~include~~ have said ~~instruction information~~ operating instructions corresponding to said request.

10.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium storing program code for causing a server computer system to process information, an operating ~~apparatus~~ client and ~~an~~ a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating ~~apparatus~~ client being connected to said server computer system, said computer readable medium comprising:

first program code receiving from said operating ~~apparatus~~ client a request ~~for instruction information for operating~~ to operate said peripheral apparatus ~~to be operated~~; and

second program code sending ~~said instruction information~~ operating instructions to said operating ~~apparatus~~ client from said server computer system in response to said request to operate said peripheral apparatus.

11.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method, comprising:

managing and storing, at a server connected to a client, a list of software commands for operating, ~~using the server,~~ a peripheral device ~~connected to a client~~;

at ~~the~~ a client, responding to ~~receiving~~ a user command ~~for operating~~ to operate the peripheral device by requesting from the server the software command list and then generating an operating command on the basis of the command list received from the server; and

sending the generated operating command from the client to the server, which ~~controls~~

4

in response sends the operating command to the peripheral device ~~in accordance with the operating command~~.

12. (NEW) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the server is adapted to communicate with the client using a first protocol and to communicate with the peripheral device with a second protocol.

13. (NEW) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the server is adapted to facilitate shared operation of the peripheral device by multiple clients.

14. (NEW) A method of distributing printer instructions on a network, the method comprising:

at a client, starting a print job destined for a network printer over a network by sending from the client over the network a request related to operate the network printer, where the request is formatted according to a first protocol;

receiving the request at a server and in response sending to the client a command list specific to the network printer and for operating the network printer;

receiving the command list at the client;

continuing the print job at the client by preparing a printer command based on the received command list and sending the printer command on the network, where the printer command is formatted according to the first protocol;

receiving the printer command at the server and in response sending the printer command to the network printer in a format according to a second protocol;

receiving the printer command at the network printer and operating according to the command and in response sending to the server indicia of ending the operating formatted according to the second protocol; and

receiving the indicia at the server and sending the indicia to the client formatted according to the first protocol.

15. (NEW) A method of distributing different command lists for operating respective differently-operated peripheral devices on a network, the method comprising:

at clients, initiating operations of the peripheral devices over a network by sending, over

5

the network, requests related to operating the peripheral devices, where the peripheral devices are each operated by different sets of commands corresponding to the command lists, and the command lists are for operating the respective differently-operated peripheral devices;

receiving the requests at a server and in response sending to the clients, respectively, command lists corresponding to the respective requested peripheral devices, where the server serves handles shared operation of the peripheral devices by the clients;

receiving the command lists at the respective clients;

continuing the operations of the peripheral devices at the clients by preparing respective different operating commands based on the respective received command lists, and sending the operating commands on the network;

receiving the different operating commands at the server and in response sending the operating commands to the respective peripheral devices; and

receiving the different operating commands at the respective differently-operated peripheral devices and the peripheral devices responding by operating accordingly.